(i) Proposal of Gujarat State Textiles Corporation seeking assistance from National Renewal Fund (April, 1993); and

(ii) Proposal of Government of Gujarat seeking assistance from NRF for Area Regeneration Scheme for closed textile mills under liquidation (January, 1993).

In the absence of requisite Government approval, no assistance from NRF could be provided to the Government of Gujarat for these schemes. NRF has since been abolished vide a Government Notification on 12.07.2000.

Campaign to Popularise use of Jute Bags

1238. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the impact of use of plastic bags and eco-friendly jute bags;

(b) the steps taken by Government to popularise the campaign of using the jute bags;

(c) whether there is better coordination between the Ministry and various agencies in this regard; and

(d) what are the various agencies and what type of work is done by those agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The government has assigned Jute Manufactures Development Council (JMDC) to conduct a study through IIT, Kharagpur to understand the cost aspects of jute packaging vis-a-vis some selected brands of commonly used plastic materials. The study includes inter-alia estimation of social and environment costs and benefits associated with the two materials, considering employment generation, pollution creation and disposability etc. A report has since been submitted by IIT, Kharagpur.

(b) and (c) National Centre for Jute Diversification (JMDC) and Jute Manufactures Development Council (JMDC) are the two government agencies which have been working towards promoting and popularising use of jute bags both in domestic and export

markets by organising campaigns, fairs, exhibitions, contact promotion programmes, buyer-seller meets etc. The enterpreneurs have also been supported in this regard. NCJD and JMDC have been working in close co-ordination with State Governments, their agencies, DRDAs, National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) centres etc.

(d) Jute Manufactures Development Council (JMDC) has been undertaking activities for promotion of jute bags with special thrust on export market. National Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD) works for entrepreneurship development by implementing schemes for setting up Jute Service Centres and Yarn Banks in various parts of the country. NCJD also works in association with various local bodies and state governments to generate awareness about jute bags. Locations where plastic bags are being banned or discouraged are identified and promotional campaigns undertaken.

Proposals under Project Package Scheme

1239. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received from the State Government of Assam under Project Package Scheme, location-wise;

(b) the sanctioned status of each, indicating year-wise amount allocated/actually disbursed, progress of work and the implementing agency;

(c) the proposals yet to be sanctioned, reasons for delay in sanction and likely time set for its clearance, district-wise;

(d) whether all beneficiaries of Janata Cloth Scheme were covered by this scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, alternative schemes to cover all weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Statement showing district-wise number of proposals received from Government of Assam, sanctioned/amount released during the last two years and proposals not sanctioned, is annexed